

IN THE CLAIMS

1-28. (Canceled)

29. (Previously presented) Apparatus for customizing a control of a user-interface of an existing application comprising:

a memory; and

at least one processor, coupled to the memory operative to: (i) record a procedure description comprising a series of actions performed by a user in the existing application user-interface; and (ii) in response to the recording operation, customizing the control of the user-interface of the existing application by installing a user-interface control specific to the procedure description in the existing application for automatic execution of the procedure description and generation of the series of actions performed by the user when the user-interface control is activated;

wherein the operation of installing the control relating to the procedure description in the existing application comprises the steps of:

sending a request to an operating system from a control installer to install the control;

creating and installing the control in the existing application user-interface through the operating system; and

registering a callback at the operating system using a location supplied by the control installer.

30. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 29, wherein the operation of recording a procedure description performed by a user in the existing application user-interface comprises the steps of:

transmitting at least one request for application user-interface structure information from a procedure capturer to the operating system; and

receiving the application user-interface structure information from the operating system at the procedure capturer.

31. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 29, wherein the operation of recording a procedure description performed by the user in the existing application user-interface comprises the step of registering a procedure capturer with the operating system to receive notification of user actions and system actions.

32. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 29, wherein the operation of recording a procedure description performed by the user in the existing application user-interface comprises the steps of:

receiving notification of user action within the existing application interface at a procedure capturer;

determining a result activated by user action at the procedure capturer;

mapping the activated control into a generic description at the procedure capturer;

adding the generic description to a procedure representation at the procedure capturer;

determining if there are more user actions; and

storing the procedure representation in the procedure capturer if there are no more user actions.

33. (Canceled)

34. (Original) The apparatus of claim 29, wherein the at least one processor is further operative to execute an installed control.

35. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 29, wherein the operation of installing the user-interface control further comprises the step of altering the appearance of at least one existing user interface control.

36. (Previously presented) An article of manufacture, stored in one or more memory devices, for customizing a control of a user-interface of an existing application comprising computer executable instructions to perform the steps of:

recording a procedure description comprising a series of actions performed by a user in the existing application user-interface; and

in response to the recording step, customizing the control of the user-interface of the existing application by installing a user-interface control specific to the procedure description in the existing application for automatic execution of the procedure description and generation of the series of actions performed by the user when the user-interface control is activated;

wherein the step of installing the control relating to the procedure description in the existing application comprises the steps of:

sending a request to an operating system from a control installer to install the control;

creating and installing the control in the existing application user-interface through the operating system; and

registering a callback at the operating system using a location supplied by the control installer.

37. (Currently amended) A method for customizing a control of a user-interface of an existing application comprising the steps of:

recording a procedure description comprising a series of actions performed by a user in the existing application user-interface; and

in response to the recording step, customizing the control of the user-interface of the existing application by installing a user-interface control specific to the procedure description in the existing application for automatic execution of the procedure description and generation of the series of actions performed by the user when the user-interface control is activated;

wherein the recording and customizing steps are implemented via one or more software components that are loaded from a memory and executed by a processor device;

wherein the step of installing the control relating to the procedure description in the existing application comprises the steps of:

    sending a request to an operating system from a control installer to install the control;

    creating and installing the control in the existing application user-interface through the operating system; and

    registering a callback at the operating system using a location supplied by the control installer.